

## ITEMS FROM CENTRAL.

### This Thriving Little City Takes On New and Robust Life.

The News of the Coming Town of the Piedmont Interestingly and Elaborately Told.

Cotton is looking the best that it has in years.

W. A. Matthews is giving the home of J. R. Falls a coat of paint.

The baby boy of Rev. A. E. Harrison, of College Hill, has been very sick with acute indigestion. It is a little better at this writing, but far from well.

Mr Lawrence Ballentyne is having a fine, two-story, ten-room house built on his place a mile east of town.

Dr. L. G. Clayton has a fine new mowing-machine and horse rake. We are glad to see improvements in the farming implements.

Whatever helps the farmer helps the town. Have you noticed the splendid new roads that are being made from Central to Clemson College, and from Central to Liberty?

The W. H. & F. Missionary Society of the Wesleyan Methodist Church met with Mrs. Harrington on College Hill on Wednesday last. The ladies are studying the work of "Western Women in Eastern Land."

The Board of Trustees for Central Graded School have elected the following teachers: Superintendent, Prof. Pressley; Assistant, Misses Greta Gaines, Corinne and Kathleen Anderson, and Eula McWhorter.

Mrs. Stone, mother of Mrs. S. L. Carson, suffered a severe stroke of paralysis on Thursday last. Fortunately it affected only the right side, and she seems to be slowly improving, though she is unable to speak as yet.

Rev. S. I. Keeler of the W. M. Church attended a Quarterly Meeting at Smith's Chapel on Sunday last. He was requested to do this because of illness in the family of the President of the Conference.

Rev. Burroughs is succeeding admirably as pastor of the Baptist Church. They have recently put in new stained-glass windows, painted and added other improvements to the building, costing about \$400.

We have always known that Central was an attractive place, but assurance is now doubly sure. Mr. H. L. Davis, an old soldier from Wisconsin, has spent two winters in the Boy's Dormitory at the College, and last week decided to start for the North again. As the old gentleman is quite feeble he planned to take the trip in sections. Accordingly he went to Spartanburg on Saturday, but became dissatisfied and homesick for Central, and returned on Tuesday. He has now decided to wait three weeks and make the home trip all at once.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. Hinshaw of North Carolina have been living on College Hill since Xmas, and accomplishing the double task of running a set of looms at the cotton mill and keeping up Theological studies at the College. They left Mon-

day for their North Carolina home to spend the long vacation with friends. They expect to return in September.

Rev. A. E. Harrison preached acceptably at the college chapel Sunday night.

Miss Beth Harrington is spending a week with Misses Dora and Ellen Duncan, of West Union.

Virgil and James Swaney have gone to Asheville, N. C., to spend the summer with relatives.

The Pendleton baseball team played Central on the home ground Saturday. Central won—as usual.

At the closing program of the Commencement, the High School Vanguard was distributed. It is a neat little sheet, and does credit to the school.

A goodly company of Central people attended the Commencement exercises at Liberty, Friday night. Prof. Ariel is to be congratulated upon the success of his program.

The family of Rev. L. E. Swaney has moved into the house recently purchased of Prof. Hancock, on College Hill. This gives two pleasant homes for girls who will attend the college—the Dunwoody Boarding Hall, and Mrs. L. E. Swaney's Boarding House. This will give ample accommodations, and we hope both establishments will be crowded. Letters already coming in indicate a greatly increased interest in the school.

We stated last week that Prof. Pressley had been elected superintendent of the Graded School at Central. We have been informed, however, that the Prof. had already contracted, before receiving the notice from our board. But we learn that our board has closed a contract with Prof. Childs. This gentleman comes very highly recommended, and will no doubt give satisfaction.

Central may be small and uninteresting, but we have noticed the people who go away are glad to return. Mr. and Mrs. E. C. West and son Henry have been in charge of the Boys' Dormitory on College Hill for two years past. They are now spending their vacation at their old home in Indiana. A letter from them says: "If we had only had a chance to see the folks we would be ready to start at once for Central."

The friends of Mrs. H. H. Chapman, formerly of Central, but now of Greenville, were shocked to learn that her husband had suffered a stroke of paralysis on Tuesday last.

Miss Dora Wiebels, the "mountain missionary," visited friends in Central a few days last week. Her stories remind us that there is still wickedness in our fair state, and that even our beautiful Blue Ridge is made to shelter a multitude of sins.

Dr. and Mrs. Shirley enter-

tained the faculty, Senior and Junior classes of the High School at their pleasant home on Tuesday night. It was a delightful occasion, and it made the teachers wish that more of the patrons would open their homes for the cultivation of the social natures of the pupils. When old and young are brought together in that manner it calls out the best that is in each one. The elders drop the weight of years, and the younger acquire the social instinct which enables them to be "at ease" in the company of others. It is a distinct advantage for both school and home, and we trust the example of the Dr. and his "guide wife" will be followed.

No matter how many fine business blocks, elegant residences and modern improvements of every kind a town may have, the reputation really rests upon the basis established by its moral tone. The Decalogue and the Golden Rule may be obsolete, and yet one instinctively feels safer in a place where they are practiced than where they are disregarded. Judged by this standard, Central is certainly moving in the right direction. Orders have been issued from headquarters positively forbidding mail to be either brought in or sent out on Sunday. Discussing the question, a prominent business man said: "This is just as it should be. I have no use for a business letter on Sunday, and do not need any other kind. I can get my mail early enough on Monday morning to transact my business, and so can every other man." The fact is the Continental Sabbath has been an important factor in lowering the moral tone of the North, and the South will do well to heed the warning given by overflowing penitentiaries and boy criminals. Hold to a proper respect for the Sabbath day.

Friday was the last day of the public school. It is always a momentous occasion, but this time there was an unusual interest. During the year Miss McCraw (7th Grade) has acted upon the principle that the pupil is affected by their surroundings. Accordingly she has had pretty curtains at the windows, pretty pictures on the walls, and has insisted upon a neatly kept room. By and by it became noticed and Prof. Haynes offered a banner as prize for the room that should present the most attractive appearance. The judges have not yet rendered the decision, but each room looks now as if it deserved a prize.

Prof. Haynes gave his students, and the few who were fortunate enough to learn about it, a rare treat on Thursday of last week. Dr. Dwyer of New York, gave a most delightful reading from Shakespeare. He has the happy faculty of bringing out undreamed of beauties in our old English mother-tongue. He reads Shakespeare as if he were a whole theatrical

troupe by himself, and the difficulties and intricacies of the style disappear as if by magic. He also gave a few gems from our own American poets.

The Sunday Schools of Central sent their full quota of delegates to the State Convention at Spartanburg recently, and the results are already apparent. The Sunday Schools are all acting in union to secure the attendance of every child in Central upon some one of the schools. All are acting in harmony, urging only that people act according to their preference. A committee has been appointed for home visitation and arrangements are being made for a systematic, business-like conduct of S. S. affairs.

Prof and Mrs W L Thompson, of College Hill, are in Glendale for a ten-days series of Meetings, and incidentally to secure students for the College. Prof. and Mrs. J. M. Hancock also, are expecting to work for the school. They go this week to Georgia.

Central is rapidly taking front rank. She may have been asleep for awhile, but now she is "broad awake," refreshed and invigorated, ready to press actively to the front. And that is just what she is doing. She has just organized a Chamber of Commerce, which under the capable Presidency of J. N. Morgan is sure to succeed. Many plans are under discussion and some actually in operation which will bring the town into deserved prominence. Just keep one eye open in this direction, please.

Central is already an educational center—The most important one in Pickens County. No longer need Pickens County feel abashed in the presence of her sister counties. The banner comes this way! In the High School Commencement just closed in Central, there were awarded Four Diplomas with the GOVERNOR'S OWN signature attached, together with the signatures of the State Educational Board. These are the ONLY DIPLOMAS, so signed that were awarded NORTH OF COLUMBIA. Three cheers for Pickens County, that has the honor of owning such a town! This High School is also the only one in the Piedmont section that has attained 14 units of work this year. The Wesleyan Methodist College is also located here. Its greatest fault is that its curriculum is so high. It has no use for a low standard of education. The call is ever "come up higher," and we can assure you that her course is equal to that of any plain college in the state, high country or low.

The commencement exercises of the Graded School were the best ever rendered in the town. The fine auditorium was packed at each of those different services. Rev. Mr. Massiebeau of Greenville gave a particularly pleasing Baccalaureate sermon, and Dr. Dwyer told us of the voyage of life in such an entertaining way that made every one wish to have the compass, chart and anchor that would make the voyage a success. The graduates, Misses Jeannette Aiken, Edna Clayton, Stacey Shirley and Mr. J. B. Falls were at their best and appreciated their diplomas to the full. The address of Prof. Morrison was so full of practical information about the progress that South Carolina is already making that we felt proud and glad to belong to such a splendid state—glad to have even an

humble part in bringing about the splendid results.

The tenth grade acquitted themselves nobly in their debate and on the whole the commencement was voted an entire success. Mr. T. S. Norris offered a gold medal to be awarded next year to the boy that furnishes the best oration; Mr. Morgan offers a medal to the girl giving the best recitation, and Mr. R. G. Gaines offers a medal to the child in the lower grades that makes the best record for punctuality and studiousness. All regret that they are obliged to part with Prof. Haynes. He has spent untiring effort to bring the school to its present state of efficiency. He goes to High Point, N. C., for next year.

#### School Improvement Prizes.

Through the co-operation of the Superintendent of Education and the State Board of Education, the South Carolina School Improvement Association is enabled to renew the same offer of prizes this year as last. Ten of the prizes are to be \$100 each, and forty of them are to be \$50 each.

Regulations concerning the 50 prizes offered by the association are as follows:

1. Improvements must be made between Nov. 1, 1910, and Dec. 10, 1911.
2. Prizes will be awarded to schools where the most decided material improvements have been made during the time mentioned.
3. Under material improvements are included local taxation, consolidation, new buildings, repairing and painting old ones, libraries, reading rooms, tables, interior decorations, beautifying yards and better general equipment.
4. No school can compete for any of these prizes unless it is a rural school. No town with more than 400 population shall be eligible to the contest.
5. All who wish to enter this contest must send names and descriptions of schools before improvements are made, to the president, prior to Oct. 1, 1911.
6. All descriptions, photographs and other evidences showing improvements must be sent to the president before Dec. 15, 1911. The chairman of the board of trustees of any school that is competing for prizes must approve descriptions before and after improvements are made.
7. Blanks will be sent to the schools competing for the above prizes with questions to be answered relating to the conditions under which the improvements have been made.
8. Prizes will be awarded in checks Dec. 31, 1911. The prizes are to be used for further improvement in the schools receiving them.
9. Other things being equal, schools using designs for new building suggested by the Clemson Extension Bulletin will be given preference.

Address all letters to  
Miss LIZZIE ROGERS,  
Pres. School Imp. Ass'n,  
Bennettsville, S. C.

ARTICLES OF CONSTITUTION.  
The constitution of the local association for the improvement of public schools is as follows:

Art. 1, Sec. 1. The name of the organization shall be "The Association for the Improvement of the Public Schools."

Art. 2, Sec. 1. The purpose of this organization shall be to unite all the people of this community for the improvement of public schools: (1) By placing in the school facilities for health,

comfort and education, together with objects of beauty; (2) by planting trees, shrubs and flowers in the school grounds; (3) by encouraging the establishment of a library in the school; (4) by making the school a center for the community, by furnishing instructive entertainment.

Art. 3, Sec. 1. Any white woman interested in this work may become an active member without the payment of any fee; any white woman may become an associate member upon the payment of a fee of 25 cents.

Art. 4, Sec. 1. The officers of this association shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary and treasurer, who shall be elected at each annual meeting.

Art. 5, Sec. 1. This association shall meet regularly once a month, or oftener, at the call of the president.

Art. 6, Sec. 1. This association shall send to the secretary of the county association for the improvement of rural schools a formal report of its progress every month.

Art. 7, Sec. 1. This constitution may be amended at any annual meeting by a vote of two-thirds of the members present.

#### The Conqueror.

It's easy to laugh when the skies are blue  
And the sun is shining bright;  
Yes, easy to laugh when your friends are true  
And happiness is sight;  
But when Hope has fled and the skies are gray,  
And the friends of the past have turn'd away,  
Ah, then indeed it's a hero's feat  
To conjure a smile in the face of defeat.

It's easy to laugh when the storm is o'er  
And your ship is safe in port;  
Yea, easy to laugh when you're on the shore  
Safe from the tempest's sport;  
But when wild waves wash o'er the storm-swept deck  
And your gallant ship is a battered wreck,  
Ah, that is the time when it's well worth while  
To look in the face of defeat with a smile.

It's easy to laugh when the battle's fought  
And you know the victory's won,  
Yes, easy to laugh when the prize you sought  
Is yours when the race is run;  
But here's to the man who smiles when the blast  
Of adversity blows, he will conquer at last,  
For the hardest man in the world to defeat  
Is the man who can laugh in the face of defeat.

—National Magazine.

#### Advertisements Are Interesting.

The advertisements in a newspaper, if the merchant means what he says, are a very valuable part of the paper to its readers. Through them the people learn where they can secure bargains and thus save themselves money. For this reason the merchant who has bargains to offer and who always does by his customers just as he advertises that he will do, is the man whose "ads" are read with interest, and who is sought when the readers wish to buy. The prosperous merchant, when he has bargains to offer, advertises the fact to the people, because he wishes them to come and see him; and then he does just as he advertised to do. People are always looking for bargains.